PBL people in NER

*375. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of people who are below the poverty line in the NER as on 31st October, 2002; and

(b) the number of schemes and programmes formulated and being implemented for the welfare of poor people in the region?

THE MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) and (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

The Planning Commission estimates the percentage of persons living below the poverty line at the National and at the State level from the large sample survey on consumer expenditure conducted by the National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO). The last survey was conducted in the 55th Round of NSSO covering the period July, 1999 to June, 2000. The number of people living below the poverty line in the North Eastern States as estimated from the data of the 55th Round large sample survey is as follows:

Sl. No.	States	No. of persons living below poverty line (Lakh)	Percentage of persons living below poverty line (%)
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	3.98	33.47
2.	Assam.	94.55	36.09
3.	Manipur	7.19	28.54
4.	Meghalaya	8.23	33.87
5.	Mizoram	1.85	19.47
6.	Nagaland	5.49	32.67
7.	Sikkim	2.05	36.55
8.	Tripura	13.02	34.44

The Government of India has formulated and is implementing a number of schemes/programmes for providing employment and other basic amenities like roads, housing and other community infrastructure for the welfare of poor people both in the rural and urban areas. Some of the major schemes/programmes are as under:

(1) Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY)
(2) Sampoorna Gramin Rozgar Yojana (SGRY)
(3) Indira Awas Yojana (IAY)
(4) Pradhan Mantri Gram Sarak Yojana (PMGSY)
(5) Swarnjayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY)
(6) National Slum Development Programme (NSDP)
(7) Valmiki Ambedkar Awas Yojana (VAMBAY)
(8) Women's Economic Programme
(9) Support to Training and Employment Programme for Women (STEP)
(10) Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme
(11) Public Distribution System (PDS)
(12) Balika Samriddhi Yojana (BSY)

SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Sir, in the reply given by the hon. Minister, it is mentioned that the number of persons living below the poverty line in Assam is 94.55 lakh, which is very high. Sir, half of the population of the State is Below the Poverty Line. Now, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether any special measure has been taken to reduce this large number of persons living Below the Poverty Line.

THE VICE CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA): Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Production of commercial vehicles

*362. SHRI S. AGNIRAJ: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state: